

aligning the orifice of the graft with the arteriotomy; and
locating the plurality of arms within the blood vessel.

68. The method of claim 67, wherein each of the plurality of arms is located adjacent to an end of the graft.

69. The method of claim 67, where each of the plurality of arms is located adjacent to a wall of the blood vessel.

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70. The method of claim 67 wherein:
the graft assembly further includes a flange portion, and
each of the plurality of arms are positioned in contact with the flange portion.

71. The method of claim 70, wherein at least a part of each of the plurality of arms is integrally positioned within the flange portion.

72. The method of claim 67, wherein the blood vessel is an aorta.

73. The method of claim 67, wherein the graft is a synthetic graft.

74. The method of claim 67, wherein each of the plurality of arms extends radially away from the orifice of the graft.

75. The method of claim 67, further comprising the steps of:
prior to the aligning step, locating the graft within a delivery device; and
advancing the delivery device toward the arteriotomy while the graft is located within the delivery device,

wherein each of the plurality of arms is located in a first position in relation to the graft during the advancing step, and

wherein each of the plurality of arms moves from the first position to a second position in relation to the graft after the advancing step.

76. The method of claim 75, wherein each of the plurality of arms moves from the first position to the second position due to spring action.

77. The method of claim 67, wherein the plurality of arms includes at least four (4) arms.

B 78. The method of claim 75, wherein each of the plurality of arms is maintained in the first position by an inner wall of the delivery device.

79. The method of claim 67, further comprising the step of inhibiting movement of the graph in a direction away from the blood vessel due to physical interaction between the plurality of arms and the blood vessel.

80. A method of locating a graft assembly in relation to an arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel, with the graft assembly including a graft and a resilient support secured thereto, comprising the steps of:

locating the graft within a delivery device;

advancing the delivery device toward the arteriotomy while the graft is located within the delivery device; and

removing the graft from the delivery device after the advancing step,

wherein the resilient support is maintained in a first configuration during the advancing step, and

wherein the resilient support moves from the first configuration to a second configuration due to spring action after the advancing step.

81. The method of claim 80, wherein after the removing step:
a first portion of the resilient support is located adjacent to a sidewall of the blood vessel when the resilient support is positioned in the second configuration.

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82. The method of claim 81, wherein after the removing step:
a second portion of the resilient support extends in a direction away from the blood vessel when the resilient support is positioned in the second configuration.

83. The method of claim 82, wherein after the removing step:
at least some of the first portion is located within the blood vessel, and
at least some of the second portion is located outside of the blood vessel.

84. The method of claim 82, wherein after the removing step:
all of the first portion is located outside of the blood vessel, and
all of the second portion is located outside of the blood vessel.

85. The method of claim 80, wherein:
the graft assembly further includes a flange portion, and
at least some of the resilient support is positioned in contact with the flange portion.

86. The method of claim 85, wherein the at least some of the resilient support is integrally positioned within the flange portion.

87. The method of claim 80, wherein the blood vessel is an aorta.

88. The method of claim 80, wherein the graft is a synthetic graft.

89. The method of claim 82, wherein after the removing step:
the second portion of the resilient support extends radially away from an orifice of the graft when the resilient support is positioned in the second configuration.

90. The method of claim 80, wherein the resilient support includes a plurality of spring arms.

B 91. The method of claim 90, wherein the plurality of spring arms includes at least four (4) spring arms.

92. The method of claim 80, wherein the resilient support member is maintained in the first configuration due to physical interaction with an inner wall of the delivery device.

93. The method of claim 80, further comprising the step of inhibiting movement of the graft in a direction away from the blood vessel with the resilient support while the resilient support is positioned in the second configuration.

94. A method of placing a graft assembly in relation to an arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel, with the graft assembly including a graft and a plurality of spring arms, comprising the steps of:

aligning an orifice of the graft with the arteriotomy; and

locating the plurality of spring arms adjacent to a wall of the blood vessel.

95. The method of claim 94, wherein the plurality of spring arms are located within the blood vessel after the locating step.

96. The method of claim 94, wherein the plurality of spring arms are located outside of the blood vessel after the locating step.

97. The method of claim 94, wherein the blood vessel is an aorta.

98. The method of claim 94, wherein the graft is a synthetic graft.

99. The method of claim 94, wherein each of the plurality of spring arms is located adjacent to an end of the graft.

100. The method of claim 94, wherein each of the plurality of spring arms is located adjacent to the orifice of the graft.

101. The method of claim 94, wherein:

the graft assembly further includes a flange portion, and

each of the plurality of spring arms is positioned in contact with the flange portion.

102. The method of claim 101, wherein at least a part of each of the plurality of spring arms is integrally positioned within the flange portion.

103. The method of claim 94, wherein each of the plurality of spring arms extends radially away from the orifice of the graft after the locating step.

104. The method of claim 94, further comprising the steps of:
prior to the aligning step, locating the graft within a delivery device; and
advancing the delivery device toward the arteriotomy while the graft is located within the delivery device,

wherein each of the plurality of spring arms is located in a first position in relation to the graft during the advancing step, and

wherein each of the plurality of spring arms moves from the first position to a second position in relation to the graft after the advancing step.

105. The method of claim 94, wherein the plurality of spring arms includes at least four (4) spring arms.

106. The method of claim 104, wherein each of the plurality of spring arms is maintained in the first position due to physical interaction with an inner wall of the delivery device.

107. The method of claim 94, further comprising the step of inhibiting movement of the graft in a direction away from the blood vessel due to physical

interaction between the plurality of spring arms and an interior wall of the blood vessel.

108. An anastomosis method comprising:

placing a conduit assembly adjacent to an arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel,

wherein the conduit assembly includes a blood flow conduit and a resilient member secured thereto, and

wherein the placing step includes the steps of (i) aligning an orifice of the blood flow conduit with the arteriotomy, (ii) locating a first portion of the resilient member within the blood vessel, and (iii) locating a second portion of the resilient member outside of the blood vessel.

109. The method of claim 108, wherein the first portion locating step includes the steps of:

bending the resilient member to a first configuration;

advancing the first portion of the resilient member through the arteriotomy while the resilient member is in the first configuration; and

allowing the resilient member to move from the first configuration to a second configuration due to spring action after the advancing step.

110. The method of claim 109, wherein the first portion locating step further includes the step of positioning the first portion of the resilient member adjacent to a wall of the blood vessel.

111. The method of claim 108, wherein:
the conduit assembly further includes a flange portion, and
the first portion of the resilient member is positioned in contact with the flange portion.

112. The method of claim 111, wherein the first portion of the resilient member is integrally positioned within the flange portion.

B1 113. The method of claim 108, wherein the blood vessel is an aorta.

114. The method of claim 108, wherein the blood flow conduit is a synthetic graft.

115. The method of claim 108, wherein the first portion of the resilient member extends radially away from the orifice of the blood flow conduit after the first portion locating step.

116. The method of claim 108, wherein the resilient member extends through the arteriotomy after the placing step.

117. The method of claim 108, wherein the first portion of the resilient member includes a plurality of struts.

118. The method of claim 117, wherein the second portion of the resilient member is attached to the graft.

119. The method of claim 117, wherein the plurality of struts includes at least four (4) struts.

120. The method of claim 108, further comprising the step of inhibiting movement of the blood flow conduit in a direction away from the blood vessel due to physical interaction between the first portion of the resilient member and the blood vessel.

121. A method of positioning a conduit assembly in relation to an arteriotomy, with the conduit assembly including a blood flow conduit and a strut assembly, comprising the steps of:

placing the blood flow conduit within an interior space of a delivery device;
and

advancing a distal end of the delivery device toward the arteriotomy while the blood flow conduit is located within the interior space of the delivery device;

wherein the strut assembly is positioned in a first configuration during the advancing step; and

wherein the strut assembly moves from the first configuration to a second configuration after the advancing step.

122. The method of claim 121, wherein the strut assembly includes a plurality of struts.

123. The method of claim 122, wherein each of the plurality of struts extend outwardly from an orifice of the blood flow conduit when the strut assembly is positioned in the second configuration.

124. The method of claim 123, further comprising the step of aligning an orifice of the blood flow conduit with the arteriotomy.

B1 125. The method of claim 121, further comprising the step of positioning each of the plurality of struts adjacent to a wall of the blood vessel after the advancing step.

126. The method of claim 121, wherein each of the plurality of struts is located within the blood vessel after the positioning step.

127. The method of claim 121, wherein each of the plurality of struts is located outside of the blood vessel after the positioning step.

128. The method of claim 121, wherein each of the plurality of struts is located adjacent to an end of the blood flow conduit.

129. The method of claim 121, wherein:

the conduit assembly further includes a flange portion, and

each of the plurality of struts is positioned in contact with the flange portion.

130. The method of claim 129, wherein at least a part of each of the plurality of struts is integrally positioned within the flange portion.

131. The method of claim 121, wherein the blood vessel is an aorta.

132. The method of claim 121, wherein the graft is a synthetic graft.

133. The method of claim 121, wherein the strut assembly moves from the first configuration to the second configuration due to spring action.

134. The method of claim 122, wherein the plurality of struts includes at least four (4) struts.

135. The method of claim 121, wherein the strut assembly is maintained in the first configuration due to physical interaction with an inner wall of the delivery device.

136. The method of claim 121, further comprising the step of inhibiting movement of the blood flow conduit in a direction away from a blood vessel in which the arteriotomy is defined due to physical interaction between the strut assembly and the blood vessel when the strut assembly is in the second configuration.

137. A method of locating a conduit assembly in relation to an opening defined in a blood vessel, with the conduit assembly including a blood flow conduit and a plurality of struts, comprising:

advancing the plurality of struts into the blood vessel through the opening;
and
aligning an orifice of the blood flow conduit with the opening defined in the blood vessel.

138. The method of claim 137, further comprising the step of locating the plurality of struts adjacent to an interior wall of the blood vessel.

139. The method of claim 138, further comprising the step of urging each of the plurality of struts against the interior wall of the blood vessel.

B 140. The method of claim 139, wherein the urging step includes the step of placing a stent within the blood vessel and adjacent to the plurality of struts to urge the struts against the interior wall of the blood vessel.

141. The method of claim 138, wherein the locating step includes the step of positioning each of the plurality of struts to extend radially away from the opening defined in the blood vessel.

142. The method of claim 137, further including the steps of:
prior to the aligning step, locating the graft within a delivery device; and
moving the delivery device toward the opening defined in the blood vessel while the graft is located within the delivery device;

wherein each of the plurality of struts is located in a first physical arrangement in relation to the blood flow conduit during the moving step; and

wherein each of the plurality of struts is reconfigured from the first physical arrangement to a second physical arrangement in relation to the blood flow conduit after the moving step.

143. The method of claim 142, wherein each of the plurality of struts moves from the first physical arrangement to the second physical arrangement due to spring action.

144. The method of claim 137, wherein each of the plurality of struts is located adjacent to an end of the blood flow conduit.

145. The method of claim 137, wherein:

the conduit assembly further includes a flange portion; and

each of the plurality of struts is positioned in contact with the flange portion.

146. The method of claim 145, wherein each of the plurality of struts is integrally positioned within the flange portion.

147. The method of claim 137, wherein the blood vessel is an aorta.

148. The method of claim 137, wherein the blood flow conduit is a synthetic graft.

149. The method of claim 137, wherein each of the plurality of struts extends radially away from the orifice of the blood flow conduit after the advancing step.

150. The method of claim 137, wherein the plurality of struts includes at least four (4) struts.

151. The method of claim 142, wherein each of the plurality of struts is maintained in the first configuration by an inner wall of the delivery device.

152. The method of claim 137, further comprising the step of inhibiting movement of the blood flow conduit in a direction away from the blood vessel due to physical interaction between the plurality of struts and the blood vessel.

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153. A method of placing a conduit assembly adjacent to an arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel, the conduit assembly including a blood flow conduit and a resilient support secured thereto, comprising the steps of:

bending the resilient support into a first configuration,

advancing the resilient support partially through the arteriotomy while the resilient member is in the first configuration, and

allowing the resilient support to move from the first configuration to a second configuration due to spring action after the advancing step.

154. The method of claim 153, wherein the blood vessel is an aorta.

155. The method of claim 153, wherein the blood flow conduit is a synthetic graft.

156. The method of claim 153, wherein:

the conduit assembly further includes a flange portion;

the resilient support includes at least one arm; and

the at least one arm is positioned in contact with the flange portion.

157. The method of claim 156, wherein at least one arm is integrally positioned within the flange portion.

158. The method of claim 153, wherein at least one arm extends radially away from an orifice of the blood flow conduit after the allowing step.

159. The method of claim 153, further comprising the steps of:

prior to the advancing step, locating the blood flow conduit within a delivery device; and

advancing the delivery device toward the arteriotomy while the blood flow conduit is located within the delivery device.

160. The method of claim 153, wherein the resilient support includes a plurality of arms.

161. The method of claim 160, wherein the plurality of arms includes at least four (4) arms which are spaced apart from each other.

162. The method of claim 159, wherein the resilient support member is maintained in the first configuration due to physical interaction with an inner wall of the delivery device.

163. The method of claim 153, wherein the allowing step is performed while a first portion of the resilient support is positioned on a first side of the

arteriotomy and a second portion of the resilient support is positioned on a second side of the arteriotomy.

164. The method of claim 163, wherein:

the first portion of the resilient support is positioned within the blood vessel,
and

the second portion of the resilient support is positioned outside of the blood vessel.

B 165. The method of claim 164, wherein the first portion of the resilient support includes a plurality of support arms.

166. The method of claim 153, further comprising the step of inhibiting movement of the blood flow conduit away from the blood vessel due to physical interaction between the resilient support and the blood vessel after the allowing step.

167. A graft assembly, comprising:

a graft having an orifice; and

a plurality of arms extending away from said orifice of said graft.

168. The graft assembly of claim 167, wherein:

said graft defines a fluid lumen; and

each of said plurality of arms extend outwardly from said fluid lumen.

169. The graft assembly of claim 167, wherein each of said plurality of arms extends radially outwardly from said orifice.

170. The graft assembly of claim 167, wherein said graft is a synthetic graft.

171. The graft assembly of claim 167, wherein:
said graft includes a flange portion; and
each of said plurality of arms is positioned in contact with said flange portion.

172. The graft assembly of claim 171, wherein at least a part of each of said plurality of arms is integrally positioned within said flange portion.

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173. The graft assembly of claim 167, wherein said plurality of arms includes at least four (4) arms.

174. The graft assembly of claim 167, wherein each of said plurality of arms is configured to move from a first position in relation to said graft to a second position in relation to said graft due to spring action.

175. The graft assembly of claim 174, wherein each of said plurality of arms extends radially outwardly from said orifice of said graft when each of said plurality of struts is positioned in said second position in relation to said graft.

176. The graft assembly of claim 167, wherein said plurality of arms are configured to inhibit advancement of said graft in a direction away from a blood

vessel when said plurality of arms are located adjacent to an internal sidewall of said blood vessel.

177. The graft assembly of claim 167, wherein said plurality of arms is secured to said graft.

178. A graft and delivery assembly, comprising:
a delivery sheath defining an interior space;
a graft positioned within said interior space of said delivery sheath; and
a spring assembly positioned within said interior space of said delivery sheath, said spring assembly being in a compressed state when said spring assembly is located within said interior space of said delivery sheath.

B 179. The assembly of claim 178, wherein:
said spring assembly includes a plurality of spring arms secured to said graft;
said graft defines a fluid lumen; and
said spring assembly is configured with each of said plurality of arms extending outwardly from said fluid lumen when said spring assembly is advanced to a location outside of said delivery sheath.

180. The assembly of claim 179, wherein:
said spring assembly includes a plurality of spring arms secured to said graft;

said graft defines an orifice; and
said spring assembly is configured with each of said plurality of arms
extending outwardly from said orifice when said spring assembly is advanced to a
location outside of said delivery sheath.

181. The assembly of claim 178, wherein said graft is a synthetic graft.

182. The graft assembly of claim 178, wherein:

said graft includes a flange portion; and

each of said plurality of spring arms is positioned in contact with said flange
portion.

B 183. The graft assembly of claim 182, wherein each of said plurality of
spring arms is integrally positioned within said flange portion.

184. The graft assembly of claim 178, wherein said delivery sheath is a
laparoscope.

185. The graft assembly of claim 180, wherein each of said plurality of
spring arms extends radially outwardly from said orifice when said spring
assembly is advanced to a location outside of said delivery sheath.

186. The graft assembly of claim 178, wherein said plurality of spring arms
includes at least four (4) spring arms.

187. The graft assembly of claim 178, wherein each of said plurality of spring arms is configured to move from a first position in relation to said graft to a second position in relation to said graft due to spring action.

188. The graft assembly of claim 178, wherein each of said plurality of spring arms is configured to move from a first position in relation to said graft to second position in relation to said graft in response to said spring assembly being advanced out of said delivery sheath.

B 189. The graft assembly of claim 188, wherein each of said plurality of spring arms extends radially outwardly from an orifice of said graft when each of said plurality of spring arms is positioned in said second position in relation to said graft.

190. A graft assembly, comprising:

a blood flow conduit defining an orifice; and

a plurality of struts each extending outwardly from said orifice.

191. The assembly of claim 190, wherein said blood flow conduit is a synthetic graft.

192. The graft assembly of claim , wherein:

said graft includes a flange portion; and

each of said plurality of struts is positioned in contact with said flange portion.

193. The graft assembly of claim 192, wherein each of said plurality of struts is integrally positioned within said flange portion.

194. The graft assembly of claim 190, wherein each of said plurality of struts extends radially outwardly from said orifice.

195. The graft assembly of claim 190, wherein said plurality of struts includes at least four (4) struts.

196. The graft assembly of claim 190, wherein each of said plurality of struts is configured to move from a first position in relation to said blood flow conduit to a second position in relation to said blood flow conduit due to spring action.

B 197. The graft assembly of claim 190, wherein each of said plurality of struts is configured to move from a first position in relation to said blood flow conduit to a second position in relation to said blood flow conduit in response to said plurality of struts being advanced out of a delivery device.

198. The graft assembly of claim 196, wherein each of said plurality of struts extends radially outwardly from said orifice of said graft when each of said plurality of struts is positioned in said second position in relation to said graft.

199. The graft assembly of claim 190, wherein said plurality of struts are configured to inhibit advancement of said blood flow conduit in a direction away

from a blood vessel when said plurality of struts is located adjacent to an internal sidewall of said blood vessel.

200. A medical assembly, comprising:

a delivery device having a passageway extending therethrough; and

a graft assembly including (i) a graft positioned within said passageway of said delivery device, and (ii) a plurality of struts secured to said graft.

201. The medical assembly of claim 200, wherein:

each of said plurality of struts includes (i) an inner end located adjacent to an orifice of said graft, and (ii) an outer end which is spaced apart from said orifice of said graft.

202. The assembly of claim 200, wherein said graft is a synthetic graft.

203. The graft assembly of claim , wherein said delivery device is a laparoscope.

204. The graft assembly of claim 200, wherein:

said graft includes a flange portion; and

each of said plurality of struts is positioned in contact with said flange portion.

205. The graft assembly of claim 204, wherein each of said plurality of struts is integrally positioned within said flange portion.

206. The graft assembly of claim 200, wherein said plurality of struts includes at least four (4) struts.

207. The graft assembly of claim 200, wherein each of said plurality of struts is configured to move from a first position in relation to said graft to a second position in relation to said graft due to spring action.

208. The graft assembly of claim 207, wherein each of said plurality of struts extends radially outwardly from an orifice of said graft when each of said plurality of struts is positioned in said second position in relation to said graft.

B 209. The graft assembly of claim 200, wherein each of said plurality of struts is configured to move from a first position in relation to said graft to a second position in relation to said graft due to spring action when said plurality of struts is removed from said passageway of said delivery device.

210. The graft assembly of claim 200, wherein said plurality of struts is configured to inhibit advancement of said graft in a direction away from a blood vessel due to physical interaction between said plurality of struts and said blood vessel when said plurality of arms is located adjacent to an internal sidewall of said blood vessel.

211. A graft assembly, comprising:

a graft having a fluid lumen; and

a plurality of braces extending outwardly from said graft.

212. The graft assembly of claim 211, wherein:

said graft includes an orifice; and

each of said plurality of braces extends outwardly from said orifice.

213. The graft assembly of claim 212, wherein each of said plurality of braces extends radially outwardly from said orifice.

214. The graft assembly of claim 211, wherein said graft is a synthetic graft.

215. The graft assembly of claim 211, wherein:

said graft includes a flange portion; and

each of said plurality of braces is positioned in contact with said flange portion.

216. The graft assembly of claim 215; wherein at least a part of each of said plurality of braces is integrally positioned within said flange portion.

217. The graft assembly of claim 211, wherein said plurality of braces includes at least four (4) braces.

218. The graft assembly of claim 211, wherein each of said plurality of braces is maintained resiliently outwardly extending in a direction transverse to said fluid lumen.

219. The graft assembly of claim 211, wherein each of said plurality of braces is configured to move from a first position in relation to said graft to a second position in relation to said graft due to spring action.

220. The graft assembly of claim 219, wherein each of said plurality of braces extends radially outwardly from an orifice of said graft when each of said plurality of braces is positioned in said second position in relation to said graft.

221. The graft assembly of claim 211, wherein said plurality of braces is configured to inhibit advancement of said graft away from a blood vessel when said plurality of braces are located adjacent to an internal sidewall of said blood vessel.

222. A graft assembly which is configured to be positioned in relation to an arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel, comprising:

a graft having an orifice which is configured to align with said arteriotomy so that blood exiting out of said arteriotomy will enter said graft through said orifice; and

a plurality of arms extending away from said orifice of said graft, each of said plurality of arms being configured to lie adjacent a sidewall of said blood vessel when said orifice of said graft is aligned with said arteriotomy.

223. The graft assembly of claim 222, wherein each of said plurality of arms extends radially outwardly from said orifice of said graft.

224. The graft assembly of claim 222, wherein said graft is a synthetic graft.

225. The graft assembly of claim 222, wherein:
said graft includes a flange portion; and
each of said plurality of arms is positioned in contact with said flange portion.

226. The graft assembly of claim 225, wherein each of said plurality of arms is integrally positioned within said flange portion.

B1 227. The graft assembly of claim 222, wherein said plurality of arms includes at least four (4) arms.

228. The graft assembly of claim 222, wherein:
said graft has a fluid lumen; and
each of said plurality of arms extends in a direction transverse to said fluid lumen.

229. The graft assembly of claim 222, wherein each of said plurality of arms is configured to move from a first position in relation to said graft to a second position in relation to said graft due to spring action.

230. The graft assembly of claim 222, wherein each of said plurality of arms is configured to move from a first position in relation to said graft to a second

position in relation to said graft in response to said plurality of arms being advanced out of an internal space of a delivery device.

231. The graft assembly of claim 229, wherein each of said plurality of arms extends radially outwardly from an orifice of said graft when each of said plurality of arms is positioned in said second position in relation to said graft.

232. The graft assembly of claim 222, wherein said plurality of arms are configured to inhibit advancement of said graft in a direction away from a blood vessel due to physical interaction between said plurality of arms and said blood vessel when said plurality of arms are located adjacent to an internal sidewall of said blood vessel.

233. A graft and delivery assembly, comprising:

a graft having an orifice which is configured to align with an arteriotomy defined in a blood vessel so that blood exiting out of said arteriotomy will enter said graft through said orifice;

a plurality of support members extending away from said orifice of said graft, each of said plurality of support members being configured to lie adjacent a sidewall of said blood vessel when said orifice is aligned with said arteriotomy; and

a delivery device configured to receive said graft within an interior space thereof.

234. The graft assembly of claim 233, wherein each of said plurality of support members is configured to move from a first position in relation to said graft to a second position in relation to said graft in response to said plurality of support members being advanced out of said delivery device.

235. The graft assembly of claim 234, wherein each of said plurality of support members extends radially outwardly from said orifice of said graft when each of said plurality of support members is positioned in said second position in relation to said graft.

236. The graft assembly of claim 233, wherein said graft is a synthetic graft.

237. The graft assembly of claim 233, wherein:
said graft includes a flange portion, and
each of said plurality of support members is positioned in contact with said flange portion.

238. The graft assembly of claim 237, wherein each of said plurality of support members is integrally positioned within said flange portion.

239. The graft assembly of claim 233, wherein said plurality of support members includes at least four (4) support members.

240. The graft assembly of claim 233, wherein said delivery device is a laparoscope.

241. The graft assembly of claim 233, wherein each of said plurality of support members is configured to move from a first position in relation to said graft to a second position in relation to said graft due to spring action.

242. The graft assembly of claim 241, wherein each of said plurality of support members extends radially outwardly from an orifice of said graft when each of said plurality of support members is positioned in said second position in relation to said graft.

B 243. The graft assembly of claim 233, wherein each of said plurality of support members is configured to move from a first position in relation to said graft to a second position in relation to said graft due to spring action when said plurality of support members are removed from said internal space of said delivery device.

244. The graft assembly of claim 233, wherein said delivery device is further configured to receive said plurality of support members within said interior space of said delivery device.

245. The graft assembly of claim 233, wherein said plurality of support members is configured to inhibit advancement of said graft away from said blood vessel due to physical interaction between said plurality of support members and said blood vessel when said plurality of support members is located adjacent to an internal sidewall of said blood vessel.

246. A method of locating a graft in relation to an anastomosis site, comprising the steps of:

locating the graft within a passageway of a delivery device;

advancing the delivery device toward the anastomosis site while the graft is located within the passageway of the delivery device; and

removing the graft from the passageway of the delivery device after the advancing step.

B 247. The method of claim 246, wherein the removing step includes the steps of:

maintaining an end of the graft at the anastomosis site; and

moving the delivery device in direction away from the anastomosis site during the maintaining step.

248. The method of claim 246, wherein an end of the graft is maintained at an anastomosis site during the removing step.

249. The method of claim 246, wherein the delivery device is moved in a direction away from the anastomosis site during the removing step.

250. The method of claim 246, wherein the delivery device possesses a tubular shape.

251. The method of claim 246, wherein:

a first end of the graft is located at a first position in the passageway after the locating step:

a second end of the graft is located at a second position in the passageway after the locating step; and

a body of the graft is interposed between the first position and the second position in the passageway after the locating step.

252. The method of claim 246, wherein the delivery device holds the graft in a linear configuration.

253. The method of claim 246, wherein the graft is positioned completely within the passageway of the delivery device during the locating step.

B 254. The method of claim wherein 246, the advancing step includes the step of advancing the delivery device toward an arteriotomy defined in a wall of an aorta.

255. The method of claim 254, wherein the removing step includes the step of moving the delivery device away from the arteriotomy defined in the wall of the aorta.

256. The method of claim 246, wherein:
the delivery device includes a distal opening and a proximal opening; and
the passageway extends between the distal opening and the proximal opening.

257. The method of claim 246, wherein the delivery device is a laparoscope.

258. The method of claim 246, wherein:
the locating step includes the step of locating the graft within the passageway with an end of the graft located adjacent to a distal end of the delivery device; and

the advancing step includes the step of advancing the delivery device toward the anastomosis site while the end of the graft is located adjacent to the distal end of the delivery device.

B 259. The method of claim 246, wherein:
the graft includes an aorta attachment end and another vessel attachment end; and

during the removing step, the aorta attachment end is removed from the passageway of the delivery device prior to removal of the other vessel attachment end from the passageway.

260. The method of claim 259 wherein:
the delivery device includes a distal opening; and
both the aorta attachment end and said another vessel attachment end are advanced through the distal opening of the delivery device during the removing step.

261. The method of claim 246, wherein said graft is a synthetic graft.

262. A method of positioning a blood flow conduit in relation to an arteriotomy, comprising the steps of:

placing the blood flow conduit within an interior space of a delivery device;

and

advancing a distal end of the delivery device to a site adjacent to the arteriotomy while the blood flow conduit is located within the interior space of the delivery device.

263. The method of claim 262, wherein:

the delivery device includes a proximal opening and a distal opening;

the interior space is defined by a passageway interposed between the proximal opening and the distal opening.

264. The method of claim 262, further comprising the steps of:

maintaining an end of the blood flow conduit at the site; and

moving the delivery device away from the site during the maintaining step.

265. The method of claim 262, wherein the delivery device possesses a tubular shape.

266. The method of claim 262, wherein:

a first end of the blood flow conduit is located at a first position in the interior space after the placing step;

a second end of the blood flow conduit is located at a second position in the interior space after the placing step; and

a body of the blood flow conduit is interposed between the first position and the second position in the interior space after the placing step.

267. The method of claim 262, wherein the delivery device holds the blood flow conduit in the interior space so that the blood flow conduit assumes a linear configuration.

268. The method of claim 262, wherein the entire blood flow conduit is positioned within the interior space of the delivery device during the placing step.

131 269. The method of claim 262, wherein the arteriotomy is defined in a wall of an aorta.

270. The method of claim 262, wherein the delivery device is a laparoscope having a channel which defines said interior space.

271. The method of claim 262, wherein:

the placing step includes locating the blood flow conduit within the interior space with an end of the blood flow conduit located adjacent to a distal end of the delivery device; and

the advancing step includes the step of advancing the delivery device toward the site while the end of the blood flow conduit is located adjacent to the distal end of the delivery device.

272. The method of claim 262, further comprising the step of removing the blood flow conduit from the delivery device after the advancing step, wherein:

the blood flow conduit includes an aorta attachment end and another vessel attachment end; and

during the removing step, the aorta attachment end is removed from the delivery device prior to removal of said another vessel attachment end from the delivery device.

273. The method of claim 272, wherein:

the delivery device includes a distal opening; and

both the aorta attachment end and said another vessel attachment end are advanced through the distal opening of the delivery device during the removing step.

274. The method of claim 262, wherein said blood flow conduit is a synthetic graft.

275. A method of locating a graft in relation to an opening in a blood vessel during a bypass grafting procedure, comprising the steps of:

locating the graft within a passageway of a delivery sheath; and

advancing the delivery sheath toward the opening while the graft is located within the passageway of the delivery sheath; and

removing the graft from the passageway of the delivery sheath after the advancing step.

276. The method of claim 275, wherein the removing step includes the steps of:

maintaining an end of the graft at a site near the opening in the blood vessel;
and

moving the delivery sheath in direction away from the site during the maintaining step.

277. The method of claim 275, wherein an end of the graft is maintained at the site during the removing step.

278. The method of claim 275, wherein the delivery sheath is moved in a direction away from the site during the removing step.

279. The method of claim 275, wherein the delivery sheath possesses a tubular shape.

280. The method of claim 275, wherein:
a first end of the graft is located at a first position in the passageway after the locating step;

a second end of the graft is located at a second position in the passageway after the locating step; and

a body of the graft is interposed between the first position and the second position in the passageway after the locating step.

281. The method of claim 275, wherein the delivery sheath holds the graft in a linear configuration.

282. The method of claim 281, wherein the delivery sheath holds the graft in a rolled configuration.

283. The method of claim 275, wherein the graft is positioned completely within the passageway of the delivery sheath during the locating step.

284. The method of claim 275, wherein:

the blood vessel is an aorta;

the opening is an arteriotomy defined in the aorta; and

the advancing step includes the step of advancing the delivery sheath toward the arteriotomy.

285. The method of claim 284, wherein the removing step includes the step of moving the delivery sheath away from the opening defined in the blood vessel.

286. The method of claim 275, wherein:

the delivery sheath includes a distal opening and a proximal opening; and

the passageway extends between the distal opening and the proximal opening.

287. The method of claim 275, wherein the delivery sheath is a laparoscope.

288. The method of claim 275, wherein:
the locating step includes the step of locating the graft within the passageway so that an end of the graft is located adjacent to a distal end of the delivery sheath; and

the advancing step includes the step of advancing the delivery sheath toward the opening while the end of the graft is located adjacent to the distal end of the delivery sheath.

B 289. The method of claim 275, wherein:
the graft includes an aorta attachment end and another vessel attachment end; and

during the removing step, the aorta attachment end is removed from the passageway of the delivery sheath prior to removal of said another vessel attachment end from the passageway.

290. The method of claim 289, wherein:
the delivery sheath includes a distal opening; and
both the aorta attachment end and said another vessel attachment end are advanced through the distal opening of the delivery sheath during the removing step.

291. The method of claim 275, wherein said graft is a synthetic graft.

292. A method of locating a graft in relation to an arteriotomy defined in an aorta, comprising the steps of:

locating the graft in an interior space of a delivery sheath;

advancing the delivery sheath toward the arteriotomy while the graft is located within the interior space of the delivery sheath; and

removing the graft from the interior space of the delivery sheath after the advancing step.

293. The method of claim 292, wherein the removing step includes:

maintaining an end of the graft at an anastomosis site; and

moving the delivery sheath away from the anastomosis site during the maintaining step.

294. The method of claim 292, wherein:

a first end of the graft is located at a first position in the interior space after the locating step;

a second end of the graft is located at a second position in the interior space after the locating step; and

a body of the graft is interposed between the first position and the second position in the interior space after the locating step.

295. The method of claim 295, wherein the delivery sheath holds the graft in a linear configuration.

296. The method of claim 292, wherein the delivery sheath holds the graft in a rolled configuration.

297. The method of claim 292, wherein:
the delivery sheath includes a distal opening and a proximal opening; and
the interior space extends between the distal opening and the proximal opening.

B 298. The method of claim 292, wherein the delivery sheath is a laparoscope.

299. The method of claim 292, wherein:
the graft includes an aorta attachment end and another vessel attachment end; and

during the removing step, the aorta attachment end is removed from the interior space of the delivery sheath prior to removal of said another vessel attachment end from the interior space.

300. The method of claim, wherein:
the delivery sheath includes a distal opening; and

both the aorta attachment end and said another vessel attachment end are advanced through the distal opening of the delivery sheath during the removing step.

301. The method of claim 292, wherein said graft is a synthetic graft.

302. A method of delivering a graft to an anastomosis site, comprising the steps of:

locating the graft within a passageway of a delivery device;

advancing the delivery device toward the anastomosis site while the graft is located within the passageway of the delivery device; and

removing the graft from the passageway of the delivery device when an end of the graft is located at the anastomosis site.

303. The method of claim 302, wherein the removing step includes the steps of:

maintaining the end of the graft at the anastomosis site; and

moving the delivery device in a direction away from the anastomosis site during the maintaining step.

304. The method of claim 302, wherein the end of the graft is maintained at an anastomosis site during the removing step.

305. The method of claim 302, wherein the delivery device is moved in a direction away from the anastomosis site during the removing step.

306. The method of claim 302, wherein the delivery device possesses a tubular shape.

307. The method of claim 302, wherein:
a first end of the graft is located at a first position in the passageway after the locating step;

a second end of the graft is located at a second position in the passageway after the locating step; and

a body of the graft is interposed between the first position and the second position in the passageway after the locating step.

B 308. The method of claim 302, wherein the delivery device holds the graft in a linear configuration.

309. The method of claim 302, wherein the graft is positioned completely within the passageway of the delivery device during the locating step.

310. The method of claim 302, wherein the advancing step includes advancing the delivery device toward an arteriotomy defined in a wall of an aorta.

311. The method of claim 310, wherein the removing step includes moving the delivery device away from the arteriotomy defined in the wall of the aorta.

312. The method of claim 302, wherein:

the delivery device includes a distal opening and a proximal opening; and

the passageway extends between the distal opening and the proximal opening.

313. The method of claim 302, wherein the delivery device is a laparoscope.

314. The method of claim 302, wherein:

the locating step includes the step of locating the graft within the passageway with an end of the graft located adjacent to a distal end of the delivery device; and

B the advancing step includes advancing the delivery device toward the anastomosis site while the end of the graft is located adjacent to the distal end of the delivery device.

315. The method of claim 302, wherein:

the graft includes an aorta attachment end and another vessel attachment end; and

during the removing step, the aorta attachment end is removed from the passageway of the delivery device prior to removal of said another vessel attachment end from the passageway.

316. The method of claim 315, wherein:

the delivery device includes a distal opening; and

both the aorta attachment end and said another vessel attachment end are advanced through the distal opening of the delivery device during the removing step.

317. The method of claim 302, wherein said graft is a synthetic graft.

318. A method of locating a blood flow conduit in relation to an opening defined in a blood vessel, comprising:

locating the blood flow conduit within an interior space of a medical instrument;

advancing the medical instrument toward the opening defined in the blood vessel while the blood flow conduit is located within the interior space; and

B7 removing the blood flow conduit from the interior space after the advancing step.

319. The method of claim 318, wherein the removing step includes the steps of:

maintaining an end of the blood flow conduit at a site adjacent to the opening defined in the blood vessel; and

moving the medical instrument away from the site during the maintaining step.

320. The method of claim 318, wherein an end of the blood flow conduit is maintained at the site during the removing step.

321. The method of claim 318, wherein the delivery device is moved away from the site during the removing step.

322. The method of claim wherein the medical instrument possesses a tubular shape.

323. The method of claim 318, wherein:

a first end of the blood flow conduit is located at a first position in the interior space after the locating step;

a second end of the blood flow conduit is located at a second position in the interior space after the locating step; and

B a body of the blood flow conduit is interposed between the first position and the second position in the interior space after the locating step.

324. The method of claim 318, wherein the medical instrument holds the blood flow conduit in a linear configuration.

325. The method of claim 318, wherein the blood flow conduit is positioned completely within the interior space of the medical instrument during the locating step.

326. The method of claim 318, wherein:

the blood vessel is an aorta;

the opening is an arteriotomy defined in the wall of the aorta; and

the advancing step includes the step of advancing the medical instrument toward an arteriotomy defined in a wall of an aorta.

327. The method of claim 326, wherein the removing step includes the step of moving the medical instrument away from the arteriotomy defined in the wall of the aorta.

328. The method of claim 318, wherein:
the medical instrument includes a distal opening and a proximal opening;
and
the interior space extends between the distal opening and the proximal opening.

329. The method of claim 318, wherein the medical instrument is a laparoscope.

330. The method of claim 318, wherein:
the locating step includes locating the blood flow conduit within the interior space with an end of the blood flow conduit located adjacent to a distal end of the medial instrument; and

the advancing step includes advancing the medical instrument toward the site while the end of the blood flow conduit is located adjacent to the distal end of the medical instrument.

331. The method of claim 318, wherein:

the blood flow conduit includes an aorta attachment end and another vessel attachment end; and

during the removing step, the aorta attachment end is removed from the interior space of the medical instrument prior to removal of said another vessel attachment end from the interior space.

332. The method of claim 331, wherein:

the medical instrument includes a distal opening; and

both the aorta attachment end and said another vessel attachment end are advanced through the distal opening of the medical instrument during the removing step.

333. The method of claim 318, wherein said blood flow conduit is a synthetic blood flow conduit.

334. A method of delivering a graft to an anastomosis site, comprising:
advancing a delivery device toward the anastomosis site while the graft is located in an interior space of the delivery device; and

removing the graft from the interior space of the delivery device after the advancing step by (i) maintaining an end of the graft at the anastomosis site, and (ii) moving the delivery device away from the anastomosis site during the maintaining step.

335. The method of claim 334, wherein the delivery device possesses a tubular shape.

336. The method of claim 334, wherein:

a first end of the graft is located at a first position in the interior space after the locating step;

a second end of the graft is located at a second position in the interior space after the locating step; and

a body of the graft is interposed between the first position and the second position in the interior space after the locating step.

B 337. The method of claim 334, wherein the delivery device holds the graft in a linear configuration.

338. The method of claim 334, wherein the graft is positioned completely within the interior space of the delivery device during the locating step.

339. The method of claim 334, wherein the advancing step includes the step of advancing the delivery device toward an arteriotomy defined in a wall of an aorta.

340. The method of claim 339, wherein the removing step includes the step of moving the delivery device away from the arteriotomy defined in a wall of an aorta.

341. The method of claim 334, wherein:

the delivery device includes a distal opening and a proximal opening; and the interior space extends between the distal opening and the proximal opening.

342. The method of claim 334, wherein the delivery device is a laparoscope.

343. The method of claim 334, wherein the advancing step includes advancing the delivery device toward the anastomosis site while an end of the graft is located adjacent to the distal end of the delivery device.

B 344. The method of claim 334, wherein:
the graft includes an aorta attachment end and another vessel attachment end; and

during the removing step, the aorta attachment end is removed from the interior space of the delivery device prior to removal of said another vessel attachment end from the interior space.

345. The method of claim 344, wherein:
the delivery device includes a distal opening; and
both the aorta attachment end and said another vessel attachment end are advanced through the distal opening of the delivery device during the removing step.

346. The method of claim 334, wherein said graft is a synthetic graft.

347. A method of locating a graft in relation to an anastomosis site, comprising the steps of:

positioning the graft within a delivery device with its full length contained therein;

advancing the delivery device toward the anastomosis site while the full length of the graft is contained therein; and

removing the graft from the delivery device after the advancing step.

348. The method of claim 392, wherein the removing step includes:

maintaining an end of the graft at the anastomosis site; and

moving the delivery device in a direction away from the anastomosis site during the maintaining step.

349. The method of claim 347, wherein an end of the graft is maintained at an anastomosis site during the removing step.

350. The method of claim 347, wherein the delivery device is moved in a direction away from the anastomosis site during the removing step.

351. The method of claim 347, wherein the delivery device possesses a tubular shape.

352. The method of claim 347, wherein:

a first end of the graft is located at a first position in the passageway after the locating step;

a second end of the graft is located at a second position in the passageway after the locating step; and

a body of the graft is interposed between the first position and the second position in the passageway after the locating step.

353. The method of claim 347, wherein the delivery device holds the graft in a linear configuration.

354. The method of claim 353, wherein the delivery device holds the graft in a rolled configuration.

355. The method of claim 347, wherein the advancing step includes advancing the delivery device toward an arteriotomy defined in a wall of an aorta.

356. The method of claim 347, wherein the removing step includes moving the delivery device away from the arteriotomy defined in the wall of an aorta.

357. The method of claim 347, wherein:

the delivery device includes a distal opening and a proximal opening; and
a passageway extends between the distal opening and the proximal opening.

358. The method of claim 347, wherein the delivery device is a laparoscope.

359. The method of claim 347, wherein:

the locating step includes the step of locating the graft within the passageway with an end of the graft located adjacent to a distal end of the delivery device; and

the advancing step includes advancing the delivery device toward the anastomosis site while the end of the graft is located adjacent to the distal end of the delivery device.

360. The method of claim 347, wherein:

the graft includes an aorta attachment end and another vessel attachment end; and

during the removing step, the aorta attachment end is removed from the passageway of the delivery device prior to removal of said another vessel attachment end from the passageway.

361. The method of claim 360, wherein:

the delivery device includes a distal opening; and

both the aorta attachment and said another vessel attachment end are advanced through the distal opening of the delivery device during the removing step.

362. The method of claim 347, wherein said graft is a synthetic graft.

363. A graft and delivery system, comprising:

a delivery device having a passageway defined therein; and

a graft located within the passageway of the delivery device.

364. The system of claim 363, wherein the delivery device is configured to possess a tubular shape.

365. The system of claim 363, wherein:

the graft has a first end, a second end, and a body;

the first end of the graft is located at a first position in the passageway;

the second end of the graft is located at a second position in the passageway;

and

the body of the graft is interposed between the first position and the second position in the passageway.

366. The system of claim 363, wherein the delivery device is configured to hold the graft in a linear configuration when the graft is located within the passageway.

367. The system of claim 362, wherein the graft is positioned completely within the passageway of the delivery device.

368. The system of claim 363, wherein:

the delivery device includes a distal opening and a proximal opening; and the passageway extends between the distal opening and the proximal opening.

369. The system of claim 363, wherein the delivery device is a laparoscope.

370. The system of claim 363, wherein an end of the graft is located adjacent to a distal end of the delivery device when the graft is located within the passageway.

371. The system of claim 363, wherein the graft is a synthetic graft.

372. The system of claim 363, further comprising an elongate member configured to be received within the passageway when the graft is located within the passageway.

373. The system of claim 373, wherein said elongate member has a length sufficient to span the length of the delivery device.

B 374. A blood flow conduit and delivery system, comprising:

a delivery device having an interior space defined therein; and

a blood flow conduit located within the interior space of the delivery device.

375. The system of claim 374, wherein the delivery device is configured in a tubular shape.

376. The system of claim 374, wherein:

the blood conduit has a first end, a second end, and a body;

the first end of the blood flow conduit is located at a first position in the interior space;

the second end of the blood flow conduit is located at a second position in the interior space; and

the body of the blood flow conduit is interposed between the first position and the second position in the interior space.

377. The system of claim 374, wherein the delivery device is configured to hold the blood flow conduit in a linear configuration when the blood flow conduit is located within the interior space.

378. The system of claim 374, wherein the blood flow conduit is positioned completely within the interior space of the delivery device.

379. The system of claim 374, wherein:

B1 the delivery device includes a distal opening and a proximal opening; and the interior space extends between the distal opening and the proximal opening.

380. The system of claim 374, wherein the delivery device is a laparoscope.

381. The system of claim 374, wherein an end of the blood flow conduit is located adjacent to a distal end of the delivery device when the blood flow conduit is located within the interior space.

382. The system of claim 374, wherein the blood flow conduit is a synthetic graft.

383. The system of claim 374, further comprising an elongate member configured to be received within the interior space when the blood flow conduit is located within the interior space.

384. The system of claim 383, wherein said elongate member has a length sufficient to span the length of the interior space.

385. The system of claim 374, wherein:
the delivery device includes a proximal opening and a distal opening; and
the interior space is defined by a passageway interposed between the proximal opening and the distal opening.

386. The system of claim 374, wherein the delivery device is a laparoscope having a channel which defines the interior space.

387. A graft and delivery system, comprising:
a delivery device; and
a graft located within the delivery device with its full length contained therein.

388. The system of claim 387, wherein the delivery device is configured in a tubular shape.

389. The system of claim 387, wherein:
the graft has a first end, a second end, and a body;
the first end of the graft is located at a first position in the delivery device;

the second end of the graft is located at a second position in the delivery device; and

the body of the graft is interposed between the first position and the second position in the delivery device.

390. The system of claim 387, wherein the delivery device is configured to hold the graft in a linear configuration when the graft is located within the delivery device.

B 391. The system of claim 387, wherein the graft is positioned completely within the delivery device.

392. The system of claim 387, wherein:

the delivery device includes a distal opening and a proximal opening; and a passage extends between the distal opening and the proximal opening.

393. The system of claim 387, wherein the delivery device is a laparoscope.

394. The system of claim 387, wherein an end of the graft is located adjacent to a distal end of the delivery device when the graft is located within the delivery device.

395. The system of claim 387, wherein the graft is a synthetic graft.

396. The system of claim 387, further comprising an elongate member configured to be received within the delivery device when the graft is located within the delivery device.

397. The system of claim 396, wherein said elongate member has a length sufficient to span the length of the delivery device.

398. The system of claim 387, wherein:
the delivery device is a laparoscope having a channel which defines a passageway.

399. A graft and delivery system, comprising:
a delivery sheath having a passageway defined therein; and
a graft located within the passageway of the delivery sheath.

400. The system of claim 399, wherein the delivery sheath is configured in a tubular shape.

401. The system of claim 399, wherein:
the graft has a first end, a second end, and a body;
the first end of the graft is located at a first position in the passageway;
the second end of the graft is located at a second position in the passageway;
and
the body of the graft is interposed between the first position and the second position in the passageway.

402. The system of claim 399, wherein the delivery sheath is configured to hold the graft in a linear configuration when the graft is located within the passageway.

403. The system of claim 399, wherein the graft is positioned completely within the passageway of the delivery sheath.

404. The system of claim 399, wherein:
the delivery sheath includes a distal opening and a proximal opening; and
the passageway extends between the distal opening and the proximal opening.

405. The system of claim 399, wherein the delivery sheath is a laparoscope.

406. The system of claim 399, wherein an end of the graft is located adjacent to a distal end of the delivery sheath when the graft is located within the passageway.

407. The system of claim 399, wherein the graft is a synthetic graft.

408. The system of claim 399, further comprising an elongate member configured to be received within the passageway when the graft is located within the passageway.

409. The system of claim 408, wherein said elongate member has a length sufficient to span the length of the delivery sheath.

410. A blood flow conduit and a delivery system, comprising:
a medical instrument having an interior space, defined therein; and
a blood flow conduit located within the interior space of the medical
instrument.

411. The system of claim 410, wherein the medical instrument is
configured in a tubular shape.

412. The system of claim 410, wherein:
the blood flow conduit has a first end, a second end, and a body;
the first end of the blood flow conduit is located at a first position in the
interior space;
the second end of the blood flow conduit is located at a second position in
the interior space; and
the body of the blood flow conduit is interposed between the first position
and the second position in the interior space.

413. The system of claim 410, wherein the medical instrument is
configured to hold the blood flow conduit in a linear configuration when the blood
flow conduit is located within the interior space.

414. The system of claim 410, wherein the blood flow conduit is position
completely within the interior space of the medical instrument.

415. The system of claim 410, wherein:

The medical instrument includes a distal opening and a proximal opening;
and

the interior space extends between the distal opening and the proximal opening.

416. The system of claim 410, wherein the medical instrument is a laparoscope.

417. The system of claim 410, wherein an end of the blood flow conduit is located adjacent to a distal end of the medical instrument when the blood flow conduit is located within the interior space.

B 418. The system of claim 410, wherein the blood flow conduit is a synthetic blood flow conduit.

419. The system of claim 410, further comprising an elongate member configured to be received within the interior space when the blood flow conduit is located within the interior space.

420. The system of claim 419, wherein said elongate member has a length sufficient to span the length of the medical instrument.

421. A method of delivering a graft to a working site within the body of a patient during a bypass grafting procedure on a blood vessel having an occluded segment, the method comprising:

advancing a medical instrument within a blood vessel of said body from a location downstream of the occluded segment;

guiding a first portion of said medical instrument through an opening formed in said blood vessel downstream of the occluded segment to extend the first portion of said medical instrument outside a said blood vessel with a second portion of said medical instrument located within said blood vessel downstream of the occluded segment; and

advancing said graft through said medical instrument to said working site at which said first portion of said medical instrument is located outside of said blood vessel with said second portion of said medical instrument located within said blood vessel.

422. A method of delivering an implantable medical apparatus to a working site within the body of a patient during a medical procedure on the circulatory system having an occluded segment, the method comprising:

advancing a medical instrument within the circulatory system of said body;

guiding a distal end portion of said medical instrument through an opening formed in said circulatory system to extend a first portion of said medical instrument outside of said circulatory system with a second portion of said medical instrument located within said circulatory system; and

advancing said implantable medical apparatus within said medical instrument toward said working site with said first portion of said medical instrument located outside of said circulatory system, and with said second portion of said medical instrument within said circulatory system; and

advancing said implantable medical apparatus within said medical instrument located outside of said circulatory system, and with said second portion of said medical instrument located within said circulatory system.

423. The method of claim 422 for performance on the circulatory system having an occluded segment, wherein advancing said medical instrument within said circulatory system of said body proceeds toward said occluded segment from a location downstream of the occluded segment.

424. A method of implanting an end portion of a graft on the circulatory system having an occluded segment in the body of a patient during a bypass grafting procedure, the method comprising:

advancing a medical instrument within the circulatory system toward the occluded segment;

guiding the distal end portion of the medical instrument out of the circulatory system through an opening formed in the circulatory system on one side of the occluded segment to extend a first portion of the medical instrument

outside of the circulatory system with a second portion of the medical instrument located within the circulatory system;

advancing the end portion of the graft through the medical instrument with the first portion of the medical instrument located outside the circulatory system and with the second portion of the medical instrument located within the circulatory system; and

securing the end portion of the graft to a blood vessel of the circulatory system at a second side of the occluded segment.
